

**Amendments To The Specification:**

Page 1, before line 1, insert the following:

**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

1. Field of the Invention:

Page 1, line 6, insert the following:

2. Description of the Related Art:

Page 3, line 16, insert the following:

**SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

Page 3, line 22, insert the following:

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS**

FIG. 1 is a perspective sectional view of a segment of a solid oxide fuel cell of the present invention.

FIG. 2 is a perspective sectional view of a segment of a solid oxide fuel cell of the present invention with a thickness defined by a rim.

**DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS**

Page 4, replace lines 9-11 with the following paragraph:

In a further embodiment, the dense electrolyte layer also covers the rim 14 of the porous elements or solely the rims which are ~~being~~ parallel with the elongated gas channels, as shown in Fig. 2.